

Wycombe Wanderers 1, Woking 2

OUTSTANDING goalkeeping by Dave Collyer, who produced a string of brilliant saves including one from a penalty, saw Woking just hold out for two Isthmian League points against champions Wycombe Wanderers at Loakes Park on Tuesday evening.

Wycombe can count themselves desperately unlucky not at least to snatch a draw after a continual bombardment on the Woking net throughout the second half. Countless chances were once again created but every time they either went wide or high, or were thwarted by Collyer's skill.

John Delaney even missed a penalty, Collyer diving full-length to turn his shot away for a corner—one of 18 won by Wycombe in the match. Added to Wanderers' troubles, Keith Searle was booked for a high tackle in the first half. Woking full back Bob Braithwaite also had his name taken for a foul on Hutchinson.

SURVIVAL

Two goals inside two minutes just before half time gave Woking a great advantage and with all but two players back in defence for the second half, they were fighting a desperate battle for survival in the late stages.

After Saturday's fine victory at Barking, only one change was made in the line up, Micky Cooper coming for Dave Bullock while Alan Gane replaced Derek Gamblin as sub.

For the first 25 minutes Wycombe dominated the game, creating good scoring opportunities. In only the fourth minute Searle was narrowly wide after running through the visitors' defence and three minutes later Tony Horseman's goalbound shot was tipped over the bar by Collyer.

Woking, however, showed their chief threat of breakaways with Ken Oram and Dave Leonard combining well. On one occasion Oram, put through by the skilful Leonard, fired

straight at 'keeper Kevin O'Brien when well placed.

But it was Wycombe who looked most likely to open the account. John Delaney out-jumped everyone to one corner but sent a power header over the top. As the half wore on, however, Wycombe began to peter out. Searle was booked for a high tackle on Brian Finn in the 29th minute and eight minutes later Woking went ahead.

The move was created by a fine run on the bottom wing by Baker. He took the ball to the by-line before pulling it back for Leonard to steer home his 20th goal of the season. A minute later Braithwaite went into the book and 60 seconds after that, Woking scored again.

Oram ran through and although O'Brien raced off his line to challenge, the ex-Oxford City favourite lobbed the ball over the 'keeper's head.

Larry Pritchard set the pattern for the second period after only five minutes when he powered a curling left-footer fractionally over the top. Larry scored all four goals at Woking last year and two against 'keeper Collyer for Wycombe against the Rest of the League. On Tuesday, his luck was right out.

BUNCHING

In their eagerness to reduce the leeway, Wanderers began to bunch badly in midfield where Keith Jameson had an unhappy evening. They were at first restricted to long range efforts with Amos going close on two occasions.

But Wycombe hopes were raised high in the 59th minute when Brian Finn felled Prit-

chard inside the area. Up came John Delaney but, although his spot kick was perfectly placed, Collyer dived to the bottom corner and tipped the ball wide.

After that, Wycombe could have been forgiven for despondency. To their credit, they put the miss behind them and went all out for goals. They didn't have to wait long as, three minutes later, Searle roared in on the blind side of the defence to send a great header wide of Collyer to the roar of the Wycombe crowd.

A seven-man wall managed to block an indirect free kick inside the Woking area in the 67th minute and then Pritchard handled the ball only a few yards from the Woking net. In the next raid, Searle shot powerfully for goal but Collyer parried and the ball dribbled just past the upright.

Alan Gane came on for Jameson in the 72nd minute but despite his efforts, Wanderers could not get that vital goal. Pritchard, Searle and Horseman were all foiled by Collyer's tremendous saves, Woking just holding out to take the points.

S.E.

WYCOMBE WANDERERS: K. O'Brien, I. Rundle, M. Cooper, G. Olson, J. Delaney, K. Jameson (sub A. Gane, 72 mins), A. Horseman, L. Pritchard, K. Searle, A. Amos, J. Hutchinson.

WOKING: D. Collyer, R. Braithwaite, P. Finn, B. Finn, D. Edwards, D. Cheesman, A. Chapple, J. Hounsell, S. Baker, K. Oram, D. Leonard. Sub.: P. Van Der Berg (not used).

Referee: R. S. Lewis (Bournemouth).

Half-time: 0-2.

Goalscorers: Wycombe — Searle (62), Woking — Leonard (37), Oram (39).
Attendance: 809.